

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

SEPTEMBER 28, 2004

RESTORE PARKS & RECREATION TRAILS CREW

In FY 2003-04, the County eliminated the Department of Parks and Recreation's Trails Crew, to help fund the County-wide structural budget deficit. This curtailment has resulted in serious health and safety issues along the 134 miles of trails for which the Department is responsible to maintain, including overgrown vegetation, fallen trees and tree limbs, illegal dumping, and eroded and washed out trail sections and fire roads. These conditions represent not only a potential hazard to hikers, bikers and equestrians, but also limit access for fire personnel and equipment to extinguish brush fires. The lack of sufficient staff dedicated to trail maintenance could lead to citations and fines from the Department of Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures and from the Fire Department, due to lack of compliance in clearing brush away from adjacent homes. Furthermore, the reduction of trails maintenance staff has led to the establishment of homeless camps at some staging areas. Restoration of the trails staff would allow the Department to deal with existing issues, and also to mobilize volunteers in some areas to assist with trail maintenance.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the Chief Administrative Officer to allocate funds from the Provisional Financing Uses account to increase the Department of Parks and Recreation's fiscal year 2004-05 budget, to add \$269,000 and five (5) positions to restore the Trails Crew, and one-time costs of \$58,000 to purchase necessary equipment to assist in the maintenance of the trails.

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Burke	_____
Yaroslavsky	_____
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Knabe	_____